

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-08 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-14
EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EPA-04 AGRE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 HEW-06 /156 W
-----011230 300028Z /62

R 291945Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 6476

DEPT FOR E (JOAN BRADEN), IO/IEP AND EB

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECOSOC
SUBJ: 63RD ECOSOC: AGENDA ITEM 3 - SUB-ITEM: CONSUMER PROTECTION

REF: A. GENEVA 6121, B. STAGE 172758

1. QUOTED BELOW IS THE TEXT OF THE REVISED PORTUGUESE DRAFT
RESOLUTION ON CONSUMER PROTECTION (E/L. 1787), CIRCULATED OFFI-
CIALLY TODAY (JULY 29) AND DUE TO BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED BY
PORTUGAL IN PLENARY UNDER AGENDA ITEM 3.

2. WE HAVE USED THE DISCRETION GIVEN US BY REFTEL B TO JOIN
IN CO-SPONSORING, AS THE RESOLUTION STILL MEETS OUR POSITION AND
AS THERE IS NOW A WELL BALANCED GROUP OF CO-SPONSORS. OTHERS
ARE AURSRIA, BANGLADESH, BOLIVIA, GREECE, INDIA, KENYA,
MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES, PORTUGAL
AND VENEZUELA. A FEW OTHERS MAY JOIN.

3. THIS DRAFT HAS BEEN THROUGH CONTINUOUS METAMORPHOSIS SINCE
THE EARLY VERSION TRANSMITTED WITH REFTEL, IN ORDER TO ACCOMMO-
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DATE THE VIEWS OF SEVERAL CO-SPONSORS AND SOME OTHERS. THE
PORTUGUESE HAVE BEEN IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH US THROUGHOUT THIS
PROCESS, AND WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HELP IN KEEPING THE CHANGES
FROM GETTING OUT OF HAND.

4. TEXT FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
RECALLING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 3201 AND 3202 (S-VI)
OF 1 MAY 1974 CONTAINING THE DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, 3281
(XXIX) OF 12 DECEMBER 1974 CONTAINING THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC
RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES, AND 3362 (S-VII) OF 16 SEPTEMBER
1975 ON DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION,
RECOGNIZING THAT THE BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENT MEASURES AIMED AT
RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE
OF THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WOULD BE ENHANCED IF THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY ADEQUATE MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL
CONSUMERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,
RECALLING ITS DECISION 204 (ORG-77) OF 14 JANUARY 1977 TO REQUEST THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION TO PREPARE A BRIEF REPORT
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ON CONSUMER PROTECTION
FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE SIXTY-
THIRD SESSION,
AWARE OF THE NEED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD OF
APPROPRIATE MINIMUM STANDARDS OF, INTER ALIA, HEALTH, SAFETY,
QUALITY PERFORMANCE AND LIABILITY,
AWARE OF THE NEED TO ASSIST INTERESTED STATES, AT THEIR REQUEST, IN
ESTABLISHING OR FURTHER IMPROVING THEIR LEGISLATION AIMED AT
PROTECTING THEIR POPULATION FROM THE PRODUCTION, IMPORT OR USE
OF PRODUCTS WHICH DO NOT COMPLY WITH SUCH STANDARDS,
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE, IN THIS CONTEXT, OF THE WORK BEING
DONE IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER PROTECTION BY THE COMMISSION
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ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS,
RECALLING DECISION 85 (V) OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED
NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, IN PARTICULAR PARAGRAPH 3 REQUESTING
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN DEVELOPING
AND STRENGTHENING THEIR CAPABILITIES FOR EVALUATING CHEMICALS,
FOODS, DRUGS AND COSMETICS BEING DISTRIBUTED WITHIN THEIR COUNTRIES,
REALIZING THAT THE PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL CONSUMERS REQUIRES
THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CO-ORDINATED APPROACH AND THAT THE WORK
OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THIS FIELD IS LIMITED,

1. TAKES NOTE OF THE REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
ON CO-ORDINATION ENTITLED "ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
RELATED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION";
2. DECIDES TO REQUEST THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PREPARE, IN
CONSULTATION WITH THE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITHIN
THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, AND ALSO BEARING IN MIND THE STUDIES
ALREADY MADE AND PARTICULARLY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CIRCUMSTANCES
OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND TO SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTY-
FIFTH SESSION, A REPORT ON POSSIBLE MEASURES TO IMPROVE INDIVIDUAL
CONSUMER PROTECTION, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ON, INTER ALIA, THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THIS AREA;
THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING MODEL GUIDELINES ON CONSUMER

PROTECTION, ESPECIALLY FOR CONSUMERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AN
EXCHANGE OF
INFORMATION INCLUDING AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS
AFFECTING THE QUALITY OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS; THE PROVISION, UPON
THE REQUEST OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES, OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
IN FORMULATING NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS; AND MEASURES
TO STRENGTHEN CO-ORDINATION WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN
THE FIELD OF INDIVIDUAL CONSUMER PROTECTION. END TEXT.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA06476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770273-0373
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977076/aaaaaegh.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c231d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GENEVA 6121
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1867597
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 63RD ECOSOC: AGENDA ITEM 3 - SUB-ITEM: CONSUMER PROTECTION
TAGS: PORG, PO, XX, ECOSOC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c231d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009